

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RE-
SOURCES

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KATHLEEN HO, D.Env
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NICHOLAS COMERFORD, Ph.D.
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DE-
VELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Hawai'i Invasive Species Council

August 30, 2021; 1:00 PM

Considering the evolving COVID-19 situation, protecting the health and welfare of the community is of utmost concern. As such, the meeting was held remotely, with Council members, legislative participants, and staff participating via online meeting software. The full meeting recording can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFT6SAASZIUxd_XgZMCjGsQ

1. Call to order at 1:04 pm by Chair Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser
2. Introductions
 - a. Voting Members Present: Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA), Nicholas Comerford (UH), Grace Simmons (designee from HDOH), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT), Nicholas Comerford (UH), David Smith (designee from DLNR), David Rodriguez (DOT)
 - b. Legislative Members Present: Rep. Nicole Lowen, Rep. Lisa Marten, Rep. Tina Wildberger, Rep. Nadine Nakamura
 - c. HISC Support Staff: Chuck Chimera, Leyla Kauffman, Chelsea Arnott, Elizabeth Speith, Rob Hauff (DLNR-DOFAW)
 - d. Members of the Public: Lori Buchanan attending through Zoom link (MoMISC)
3. Approval of minutes from June 9, 2021 meeting
 - a. Discussion: None
 - b. Motion to approve: Nicholas Comerford
 - c. 2nd: David Rodriguez
 - d. Voting: Approval - Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA), Nicholas Comerford (UH), Gracelda Simmons (designee from HDOH), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT), Nicholas Comerford (UH)
 - e. Abstained: David Smith (DLNR rep)
4. Submittal: Requesting approval of a recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2022
 - a. Discussion
 - i. Chelsea Arnott presented on the HISC budget process, proposal scoring process, Resources Working Group meeting on budget allocations, funding shortfalls, and a proposal to close the funding shortfall gap with altering the HISC Resources Working Group proposed proposal with additional funding
 1. Comments
 - a. David Smith provided comments on the importance of HISC program and the need for additional funding.

- b. David Rodriguez commented on the resources working group's open process for deciding the budget allowing for all groups.
 - c. Rob Hauff commented on the restrictions of sunshine law and the length of the meeting.
 - d. Rep. Lowen inquired about how the Big Island group was less funded.
 - e. Chelsea clarified that the BIISC started with lower scoring proposals and a lower starting funding amount.
 - f. Rep. Lowen suggests that the funding is commensurate to the size of the island and the problems it faces
 - g. David Smith comments that different islands have different issues.
- ii. Chelsea Arnott presented the Recommended Budget
- 1. Proposals that are recommended to not fund
 - 2. Programmatic Awards
 - 3. Biocontrol Research and Weed Management
 - 4. Aquatics
 - 5. Rapid Ohia Death
 - 6. Research
 - 7. Mosquitoes
 - 8. Ungulates
 - 9. Recommendation is to:
 - a. That the HISC approve the FY22 budget for HISC support and an interagency project portfolio that is recommended by HISC Support Staff with the 2.5% reduction, and
 - b. That, should the Department of Budget and Finance make any changes to the restriction on expenditures, the HISC delegate authority to the HISC Support Staff to identify best way to apply additional restrictions to project funds, or to identify best uses of any released funds, and
 - c. That, if there are any changes in the scope or implementation of projects over the course of the year, the Council delegate authority to the HISC Support staff to make adjustments to project funds or reassign project funds from any project that does not proceed in a timely manner.
 - i. Motion to approve: David Smith
 - ii. 2nd: Nicholas Comerford
 - iii. Public testimony
 - 1. Lori Buchanon (MoMISC) asks for the council to recommend extra meetings between the applicants and HISC staff before next years appropriations to improve the budgeting process.
 - 2. David Smith noted that a lot of important work was not funded which shows a need for more funding for HISC.
 - 3. Lindsey Nietmann (DOFAW) provided written testimony in support of funding the USDA-

APHIS project to conduct the research required to register a toxicant for mongoose control with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) HISC funding application for the full amount requested.

iv. Unanimous vote to approve

5. Public Comments

a. Public Testimony

- i. Lori Buchanon (MoMISC) asks for meetings to review the HISC resources working group process, hopefully before the next budget cycle

b. YouTube Public Comments

Christy Martin (CGAPS) The \$6+ mil/year paid by sea cargo importers into HDOA's pest inspection & eradication fund was used to support nearly half of the 90 PQ inspectors, & critical support for HAL, BIISC, CTAHR research, etc. Can the Council and legislators meet to discuss if and how funds may be prioritized for this critical invasive species work instead of going directly into the general fund?

- i. Procedural question from the Chair about if the issues raised in the public comments should be added to a future Council meeting agenda.

1. HISC support staff supports convening meetings to discuss the HISC budget process.

6. Adjournment: at 2:12p by Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser

- a. Motion: Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT)
- b. Second David Smith (DLNR)
- c. Objections: None

The Council may go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 92-5(a) (4), Hawaii Revised Statutes, in order to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Council's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities.

Individuals requesting special accommodations (e.g., large print materials, sign-language interpreters) are asked to contact the staff below at least three days prior to the meeting.

For information, contact:

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